Minutes of the 30th meeting of the Academic Council held on 25th August 2023 at Conference Hall, Barad Sadan Academic Block

30th meeting of the Academic Council was held on 25th August 2023 at 11 AM at Conference Hall, Barad Sadan Academic Block. Following were present:

| 1. | Prof. Avinash Khare Vice-Chancellor | - | Chairperson |
|-----|---|---|-------------|
| 2. | Prof. R. Ganesh Senior Professor-H Institute for Plasma Research | - | Member |
| 3. | Dr. Passang D. Phempu Director Namgyal Institute of Tibetology | - | Member |
| 4. | Dr. B.B. Pradhan Principal Sikkim Institute of Science & Technology Chisopani, Namchi District, Sikkim | - | Member |
| 5. | Prof. Laxuman Sharma Dean, School of Life Sciences | - | Member |
| 6. | Prof. Manesh Choubey Dean, School of Social Sciences | - | Member |
| 7. | Prof. S.S. Mahapatra Dean, School of Professional Studies | - | Member |
| 8. | Prof. Sanjay Dahal Dean, School of Physical Sciences & Dean, Students' Welfare | - | Member |
| 9. | Prof. Rosy Chamling Dean, School of Languages & Literature | - | Member |
| 10. | Prof. Sohel Firdos Dean, School of Human Sciences | - | Member |
| 11. | Dr. S. Murali Mohan Controller of Examinations | - | Member |
| 12. | Dr. Shri Ram Librarian | - | Member |
| 13. | Prof. Nawal K. Paswan Head, Department of Peace & Conflict Studies | - | Member |

and Management

| 14. | Prof. Satyananda Panda, Head, Department of Psychology | - | Member |
|-----|--|---|--------|
| 15. | Prof. Kabita Lama Head, Department of Nepali | - | Member |
| 16. | Prof. Swati A. Sachdeva Head, Department of Sociology | - | Member |
| 17. | Prof. Ambika Dhaka Head, Department of History | - | Member |
| 18. | Prof. Dhani Raj Chhetri Head, Department of Botany | - | Member |
| 19. | Prof. Durga Prasad Chhetri, Head, Department of Political Science | - | Member |
| 20. | Prof. Praveen Mishra Head, Department of Law | - | Member |
| 21. | Prof. Amit Chakraborty Head, Department of Mathematics | - | Member |
| 22. | Prof. A.N. Shankar Head, Department of Commerce | - | Member |
| 23. | Dr. Bilambita Banisudha Head, Department of Music | - | Member |
| 24. | Dr. Dhriti Roy Head, Department of Chinese | - | Member |
| 25. | Dr. Mohan Pratap Pradhan, Head, Department of Computer Applications | - | Member |
| 26. | Dr. T.J.M.S. Raju, Head, Department of Education | - | Member |
| 27. | Dr. Nipun Chaudhary, Head, Department of English | - | Member |
| 28. | Dr. Rakesh Kumar Ranjan, Head, Department of Geology | - | Member |
| 29. | Dr. Hardeep Singh Head, Department of Hindi | - | Member |

| 30. | Dr. Nagendra Thakur Head, Department of Microbiology | - | Member |
|-----|--|---|-----------------|
| 31. | Dr. Nitish Mondal Head, Department of Anthropology | - | Member |
| 32. | Dr. Ajay Tripathi Head, Department of Physics | - | Member |
| 33. | Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang Senior Professor Department of Microbiology | - | Member |
| 34. | Prof. Abhijit Dutta Professor, Department of Commerce | - | Member |
| 35. | Prof. Swarup Roy Professor, Department of Computer Applications | - | Member |
| 36. | Prof. Dhani Raj Chhetri Professor, Department of Botany | - | Member |
| 37. | Prof. Sandhya Thapa Professor, Department of Sociology | - | Member |
| 38. | Prof. Pradeep K. Sarma Professor, Department of Hindi | - | Member |
| 39. | Dr. Vijay Kr. Thangellapali Associate Professor Department of History | - | Member |
| 40. | Dr. Akhilesh Kumar Gupta Associate Professor Department of Chemistry | - | Member |
| 41. | Dr. Krishnendu Dutta Associate Professor Department of Music | - | Member |
| 42. | Dr. Sujata Upadhyay Associate Professor Department of Horticulture | - | Member |
| 43. | Dr. Gorakh Nath Tiwari Associate Professor Department of Hindi | - | Member |
| 44. | Prof. Yodida Bhutia Professor, Department of Education & | - | Special Invitee |

Chairperson, NEPCSU

45. Dr. Amit Kumar Gupta
Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science &
Member-Secretary, NEPCSU

- Special Invitee

46. Shri K.V.S. Kameswara Rao Registrar Secretary

The following members could not attend the meeting because of their preoccupation and sought leave of absence:

- 1. Prof. Bhoj Kumar Acharya, Head, Department of Zoology
- 2. Prof. K.R. Rama Mohan, Professor, Department of Anthropology

Dr. S.K. Gurung, Joint Registrar (Acad.) was present to assist the Council.

The Chairperson welcomed all members present in the 30th meeting of the Academic Council and especially welcomed the following members who were attending for the first time.

- 1. Prof. R. Ganesh, Senior Professor-H, Institute of Plasma Research
- 2. Dr. Passang D. Phempu, Director, Namgyal Institute of Tibetology
- 3. Prof. Praveen Mishra, Head, Department of Law
- 4. Prof. Ambika Dhaka, Head, Department of History
- 5. Dr. Dhriti Roy, Head, Department of Chinese
- 6. Dr. Nipun Choudhary, Head, Department of English
- 7. Dr. Nagendra Thakur, Head, Department of Microbiology
- 8. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Ranjan, Head, Department of Geology
- 9. Dr. Bilambita Banisudha, Head, Department of Music
- 10. Prof. Sandhya Thapa, Professor, Department of Sociology
- 11. Prof. Pradeep K. Sarma, Professor, Department of Hindi
- 12. Dr. Vijay Kumar Thangellapali, Associate Professor, Department of History
- 13. Dr. Sujata Upadhyay, Associate Professor, Department of Horticulture
- 14. Dr. Gorakh Nath Tiwari, Associate Professor, Department of Hindi

The Chairperson also put on record the contributions of the following and thanked them who completed their tenure in the Academic Council:

- 1. Prof. N. Sathyanarayana, Former Dean, School of Life Sciences
- 2. Prof. Anil Kumar Misra, Former Head, Department of Geology

- 3. Prof. Veenu Pant, Former Head, Department of History
- 4. Prof. Krishna Murari, Former Head, Department of Management
- 5. Dr. Rajesh Raj S.N., Former Head, Department of Economics
- 6. Prof. Komol Singha, Former Professor, Department of Economics
- 7. Prof. Pushpa Sharma, Former Professor, Department of Nepali
- 8. Dr. Vimal Khawas, Former Associate Professor, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies & Management

The Chairperson also informed the House that this Academic Council meeting is being held after a period of almost one year since the last meeting and during this period, the University has made some landmark achievements as follows:

- i. Implementation of NEP, 2020
- ii. Preparation of various Regulations like MOOCs, MEME, ABC, Internationalization of SU, Professors of Practice, constitution of Research & Development Cell to facilitate smooth implementation of NEP 2020.
- iii. Implementation of 4 years UG programme
- iv. Revision of syllabus of all UG, PG and PhD programmes in alignment with NEP, 2020
- v. CUET participation
- vi. Establishment of Centre of High Performance Computing Centre
- vii. Sikkim University featured at rank No. 14 in the list of top 20 Central Universities as per Outlook ranking.

Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up as under:

SECTION-1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES & ACTION TAKEN REPORT

AC 30.1.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 29th meeting of the Academic Council held on 5th September 2022

The Academic Council confirmed the minutes of 29th meeting of the Academic Council held on 5th September 2022 as circulated to all the members on 30th September 2022.

AC 30.1.2: Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 29th meeting of the Academic Council held on 5th September 2022

The Secretary presented the action taken report on the minutes of the 29th meeting held on 5th September 2022. The Academic Council noted the action taken report.

SECTION-2 REPORTING ITEMS

AC 30.2.1: Synopses for M.Phil/Ph.D registrations in the University

The Council noted the number of synopses for Ph.D/MPhil registrations in the University under each School of Studies. The HoD, Department of Peace & Conflict Studies and Management (PCSM) informed the House that 3 PhD synopses have been registered in the Dept. of PCSM and the same was noted by the Council with correction in the Agenda item.

SECTION-3 RATIFICATION MATTERS

AC 30.3.1: Panel of External Examiners

The Council noted that the Vice-Chancellor had approved the modifications in the following clauses of the Guidelines on Intellectual Property Rights, 2020 as notified vide Notification – 89/2023 dated 07.08.2023:

- i) Under clause 6.1 specifying the composition of the IPR Cell, the provision of "**Two external members specializing in IPR related issues**" has been deleted in view of administrative requirement.
- ii) Under clause 7.1(a), the word "**IPM Cell**" in the first line has been replaced by "**The Innovator**" which is a simple correction of typographical error.

The Academic Council ratified the above action of the Vice-Chancellor.

AC 30.3.2: Programme structure for a Four-Year UG (Honours) for Colleges

The Council noted that the University received a letter dated 06.06.2023 from the Additional Secretary informing preparation of Programme structure for UG Four Year (Honours) strictly in accordance with the curriculum & Credit Framework issued by the UGC in December, 2022 and requested for vetting and approval by the University.

The NEP Core Committee of the University in its meeting held on 19.06.2023 thoroughly deliberated on the UG (Four Year- Honours) programme structure submitted by the Department of Education, GoS and found the structure in compliance with the NEP-2020 guidelines and other UGC guidelines issued in this regard. Accordingly, in view of the urgency for preparation of syllabi, the Vice-Chancellor and Chairman granted administrative approval for implementation of the UG programme structure.

The Academic Council ratified the above action of the Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor and the Chairman, Academic Council also appreciated and lauded the efforts put in by the NEP Implementation Committee for the successful implementation of revised syllabus of UG/PG programmes in line with NEP 2020 guidelines in Sikkim University from the academic session 2023-24. Also, the Chairman informed the House that the Principal of the affiliated colleges have been advised to frame the syllabus of the programmes taught in their respective colleges in line with NEP 2020 on a war footing manner and get the same implemented from the next academic year, i.e., 2024-25. Prof. R. Ganesh suggested that one or two affiliated colleges may be identified to implement the revised NEP syllabus as a pilot project.

SECTION-4 MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

A. PANEL OF EXAMINERS, ETC.

AC 30.4.A1: Panel of External Examiners

The Council approved the panel of examiners as per the details given below as recommended by the concerned School Board for the purpose as mentioned in the table:

| S1. No. | Name of the School | Name of the Department | External examiners to be invited for | |
|------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1) | School of Physical Sciences | Chemistry | 2+2=4 PhD thesis | |
| | | Physics | 2+3=5 PhD thesis | |
| | | Geology | 2 PhD thesis | |
| | | Mathematics | 3 PhD thesis | |
| | School of Languages & Literature | English | 2 PhD thesis | |
| 2) | | Nepali | 3+2=5 PhD thesis | |
| 2) | | Chinese | 1 PhD thesis; PG dissertation | |
| | Literature | Hindi | 1 PhD thesis | |
| | | Zoology | 3 PhD thesis | |
| | | Botany | 1 PhD thesis; PG Practical examination | |
| 3) | School of Life Sciences | Horticulture | 2 PhD thesis; PG & PhD practical examination; PG dissertation & viva | |
| | | Missislass | VOCE | |
| | | Microbiology | 2 PhD thesis | |
| 4) | School of Human Sciences School of Professional Studies | Anthropology Geography | 2+1=3 PhD thesis; 3 MPhil dissertation PG dissertation & practical examination | |
| 14) | | Psychology | 1+2=3 PhD thesis | |
| | | Commerce | 3+4=7 PhD thesis | |
| | | Education | 1 PhD thesis | |
| | | Mass Communication | 4 PhD thesis | |
| 5) | | Tourism | 1 MPhil dissertation | |
| 3) | | Library & Information Science | Practical examinations for two courses of MLIS programme | |
| | | Music | 5+4=9 PhD thesis; 1 MPhil dissertation & UG/PG practical examination | |

| | | Management | 6 PhD thesis |
|----|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 6) | School of Social Sciences | History | 2+6=8 PhD thesis; 1+4=5 MPhil dissertation |
| | | International Relations | 1 MPhil dissertation |
| | | Economics | 5+5=10 PhD thesis |
| | | Law | 1 MPhil dissertation |
| | | PCSM | 2 PhD thesis; 1 MPhil dissertation |

B. SYLLABUS MATTERS/COURSES ETC.

AC 30.4.B1: Certificate course on basic computer simulation in the Department of Physics

The Council noted that the School Board of Physical Sciences in its meeting held on 07.12.2022 recommended for introduction of a certificate course on basic computer simulation in the Department of Physics.

After deliberations, the Academic Council decided to keep this matter on hold and to place the elaborate proposal with all details after thorough discussion.

AC 30.4.B2: Revision of Syllabus in alignment with National Education Policy (NEP) 2020

The Council noted that the University had asked all the Departments to revise the UG/PG syllabus along with that of PhD Coursework incorporating some key provisions of NEP in order to implement it from the Odd semester of 2023. Accordingly, each of the Departments under the School constituted their respective Syllabus Review Committees (SRC) consisting of all faculty members of the concerned Department and external experts.

At the first stage, a draft of the revised syllabus was prepared with the help of the faculty members of the concerned Departments. At the second stage, respective Departments organized SRC meeting with the external experts in which the draft syllabus was discussed in minute detail. Subsequently, the syllabi of the courses at the different levels of programmes offered by each of the Departments was developed based on the feedback/comments received in the SRC meeting. At the third stage, the syllabi were sent to NEP Implementation Committee of Sikkim University for their comments on the structure and credit distribution across different categories of papers and semesters. Based on the feedback/comments received from this committee, each of the Departments under the School has revised the syllabus.

Accordingly, after deliberations, the following syllabi of all the programmes in the University as aligned with NEP 2020 guidelines were approved by the Academic Council:

- 1. **Anthropology**: MA/MSc and PhD coursework
- 2. **Geography:** MA/MSc and PhD coursework
- 3. **Psychology**: BA/BSc, MA/MSc and PhD coursework
- 4. **Bhutia**: MA and PhD coursework
- 5. **Chinese**: BA, MA and PhD coursework
- 6. **English**: MA and PhD coursework
- 7. **Hindi:** BA, MA and PhD coursework
- 8. **Lepcha:** MA and PhD coursework
- 9. **Limbu:** MA and PhD coursework
- 10. **Nepali:** MA and PhD coursework
- 11. Botany: MSc and PhD coursework
- 12. Horticulture: MSc and PhD coursework
- 13. Microbiology: MSc and PhD coursework
- 14. **Zoology:** MSc and PhD coursework
- 15. **Chemistry:** MSc and PhD coursework
- 16. **Computer Applications:** MCA and PhD coursework
- 17. **Geology:** MSc, MSc (Environmental Science) and PhD coursework
- 18. **Mathematics:** MSc and PhD coursework
- 19. Physics: MSc and PhD coursework
- 20. **Commerce:** M.Com. and PhD coursework
- 21. **Education**: B.Ed, MA, M.Ed and PhD coursework
- 22. Management: MBA and PhD coursework
- 23. Mass Communication: MA and PhD coursework
- 24. **Music**: BPA, MPA and PhD coursework
- 25. **Tourism**: MTTM and PhD coursework
- 26. Library & Information Science: M.Lib.I.Sc
- 27. **Economics**: MA and PhD coursework
- 28. **History**: MA and PhD coursework
- 29. International Relations: MA and PhD coursework
- 30. **Law**: LLM and PhD coursework
- 31. **Peace and Conflict Studies & Management**: MA and PhD coursework
- 32. **Political Science**: MA and PhD coursework
- 33. **Sociology**: MA and PhD coursework
- 34. Buddhist Studies: MA
- 35. Buddhist and Tibetan Studies: MA

The Chairman, Academic Council commended the NEP Implementation Committee Chairperson and her team for the successful implementation of revised syllabus of UG/PG programmes in line with NEP 2020 guidelines.

AC 29.4.B3: Establishment of Buddhist Research Centre and starting MA programme in "Buddhist Studies" with the academic support of the NIT, Deorali

The Council noted that the University received a letter dated 06.08.2022 from the Additional Secretary, Education Department, Government of Sikkim informing the meeting of the member of the National Commission for Minorities from 3rd to 8th February, 2022 at the Zilla Bhawan, Gangtok. During the meeting with the stakeholders it was felt for the need of Buddhist Research Centre in Sikkim University and inclusion of Buddhism as one of the religious subjects in the NEP curriculum.

The matter was discussed in the 23rd meeting of the Deans' Committee held on 1st September, 2022 wherein it was resolved that University will establish a Centre for Buddhist Studies in the upcoming University campus for the promotion and prosperity of Buddhist Studies. It was also resolved to write to the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology (NIT), Deorali, affiliated to Sikkim University, for entering into a MoU for starting an MA programme in Buddhist Studies initially with the academic support of the NIT, Deorali at NIT campus while SU will admit students to the programme.

NIT, Deorali vide letter dated 16.12.2022 agreed to start MA programme in Buddhist Studies at NIT with the academic support from their own teaching staff and sign the MoU.

The 24th Deans' Committee meeting held on 25th April, 2023 approved the draft MoU and also considered the following:

- (a) Establishment of a Centre for Buddhist Studies shall wait till the University and its department concerned moves to its campus at Yangang.
- (b) Department of History has been identified for starting a programme on Buddhist Studies
- (c) Dr. Sangmu Thendup, Assistant Professor, Department of History has been identified as the Co-ordinator for the programme.
- (d) A PG programme in Buddhist Studies (MA) will be started from the academic session 2023-24 and the advertisement for admission will be separately published.
- (e) Entrance test will be conducted by the Department of History for the selection of the candidates. However, the programme will be registered in CUET from next year (i.e. 2024-25)
- (f) BoS of the History Department shall be notified about the starting of the MA programme in Buddhist Studies.
- (g) Signing of the MoU with the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology (NIT), Deorali for teaching the course in NIT premises.

- (h) Teachers engaged by NIT for teaching Buddhist Studies shall be paid by the University as per the norms applicable for guest faculty/adjunct faculty.
- (i) Approval of the draft MOU to be signed between SU and NIT with minor modification.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, approved establishment of Centre for Buddhist Studies in the Yangang campus of SU and starting of MA programme in Buddhist Studies as per the decision of the 23rd Deans' Committee meeting. The Vice-Chancellor expressed his gratitude to the Director, Namgyal Institute of Tibetology for accepting the request of Sikkim University for academic assistance.

C. RULES AND POLICY MATTERS

AC 30.4.C1: Adoption of National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (Minimum Standard of Undergraduate Sowa-Rigpa Education) Regulations 2022

The Council noted that the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology offers Soya-Rigpa course which is regulated by the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM). NCISM has issued the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (Minimum Standard of Undergraduate Sowa-Rigpa Education) Regulations 2022 with revised syllabus and Academic Calendar for the Sowa-Rigpa course from 2022-23 batch onwards.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, recommended the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (Minimum Standard of Undergraduate Sowa-Rigpa Education) Regulations 2022 for approval and adoption by the Executive Council.

AC 30.4.C2: Adoption of B.Pharm and M.Pharm Course Regulations, 2014

The Council noted that the Pharmacy courses at present are being conducted in the two affiliated colleges of the University, viz., Himalayan Pharmacy Institute, Majhitar and Government Pharmacy College Sajong. Himalayan Pharmacy Institute offers B.Pharm, M.Pharm and Ph.D. courses and Government Pharmacy College offers B.Pharm course. The course structure and syllabus of Pharmacy courses are regulated by the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI). The PCI has notified the B.Pharm and M.Pharm Course Regulations, 2014 which comprehensively prescribes the methodologies to be followed for successful completion of these courses from admission till the grant of degree.

The Academic Council, after deliberations, recommended to the Executive Council for approval and adoption of the B.Pharm and

M.Pharm Course Regulations, 2014 (and its subsequent amendments from time to time) by Sikkim University.

AC 30.4.C3: Revised Regulations on conduct of Ph.D programme & revised University Ordinance OC-7

The Academic Council, after deliberations, decided to defer the matter and advised the drafting committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Nawal K. Paswan to share the revised Regulations on conduct of Ph.D programme & revised University Ordinance OC-7 among all the stakeholders and the feedback/inputs received, if any, to be incorporated and placed after thorough discussion on the draft Regulations. The matter may be placed in next meeting of the Academic Council for consideration.

AC 30.4.C4: Amendment in Regulations on Conduct of Examinations in accordance with University Ordinance in connection with award of Gold and Silver medals

The Council noted that as per the provisions of the University Ordinance at OC-4 (para 3) for UG and OC-5 (para 11) for PG, the Gold and Silver medalists are determined as follows:

"The top two scorers in terms of **absolute** score shall be awarded Gold and Silver medals respectively subject to the condition that such score, if below 60% shall not qualify for medal."

However, para 10 of the Regulations on Conduct of Examinations states that:

"The students obtaining the highest and the second highest **CGPA** score at the Final Semester Examination in their respective subjects shall be awarded with Gold and Silver Medals in the subsequent Convocation held at the university post declaration of such results."

In view of the above discrepancy, which has been causing confusion and grievance among students, the para 10 of the Regulations on Conduct of Examinations may be amended in accordance with the University Ordinance as proposed below:

"The students obtaining the highest and the second highest **CGPA absolute** score **at the Final Semester Examination** in their respective subjects shall be awarded with Gold and Silver Medals in the subsequent Convocation held at the university post declaration of such results."

The Academic Council recommended the above amendment in para 10 of the Regulations on Conduct of Examinations for approval of the Executive Council. The Council also advised that the proposed amendment may be explained citing adequate examples.

AC 30.4.C5: Constitution of Board of Studies of the subjects that are only taught at the affiliated colleges and not at the University level and their assignment to the School Boards

The Council noted that there are some subjects that are only taught at the affiliated colleges and not at the University level. Hence, it is required to constitute the Board of Studies of these subjects and also assign them to the School Boards of the University. The Academic Council approved appointment of the Chairperson of the Board of Studies of those subjects and their assignment to the respective School Boards as mentioned below:

| S. | Subject | BoS Chairperson | Assigned to the | Colleges where the |
|-----|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| No. | | | School Boards | subjects are taught |
| 1. | Pharmacy | Dean, School of | School of | Himalayan Pharmacy |
| | | Professional | Professional | Institute & Government |
| | | Studies | Studies | Pharmacy College, |
| | | | | Sajong |
| 2. | Computer | Dean, School of | School of Physical | Sikkim Government |
| | Engineering | Physical Sciences | Sciences | Institute of Science & |
| 3. | Civil | Dean, School of | School of Physical | Technology |
| | Engineering | Physical Sciences | Sciences | recimology |
| 4. | Nursing | Dean, School of | School of Life | Sikkim Government |
| | | Life Sciences | Sciences | College of Nursing |
| 5. | Sowa Rigpa | Dean, School of | School of | |
| | | Professional | Professional | |
| | | Studies | Studies | Namgyal Institute of |
| 6. | Buddhist & | HoD, Department | School of Social | Tibetology |
| | Tibetan | of History | Sciences | |
| | Studies | | | |

AC 30.4.C6: Report of the Committee for drafting rules for Maternity Leave for students of UG and PG programmes in Sikkim University and its affiliated colleges

The Academic Council, after deliberations, decided to defer the matter and advised the drafting committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.S. Mahapatra to share the draft rules/norms for Maternity Leave for students of UG and PG programmes in Sikkim University and its affiliated colleges among all the Members of the Academic Council and comments, if any, may be received after thorough deliberation by the Members of the Academic Council.

Vice-Chancellor is authorized to approve the said Rules for implementation and Academic Council may be informed later on.

AC 30.4.C7: Draft Regulations and Guidelines in alignment with National Educational Policy 2020

The Academic Council recommended the following draft Regulations and Guidelines in alignment with National Educational Policy 2020 drafted by the National Educational Policy Committee of Sikkim University (NEPCSU) under the Chairpersonship of Prof. Yodida Bhutia for approval of the Executive Council:

- i. Regulations for the Implementation of MOOCs through SWAYAM
- ii. Regulations for implementation of Multiple Entry and Exit
- iii. Regulations for operationalizing Academic Bank of Credits
- iv. Regulations on Internationalization of Sikkim University
- v. Regulations for engaging Professors of Practice
- vi. Guidelines for Research and Development Cell of Sikkim University

Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Director, Research and Development Cell informed the House that the first meeting of the Research Advisory Council of Research and Development Cell of Sikkim University under the Chairmanship of the Vice-Chancellor has been scheduled on 04.09.2023.

AC 30.4.C8: Adoption of Indian Nursing Council {Revised Regulations and Curriculum for B.Sc. (Nursing) Program - Corrigendum}, Regulations, 2022

The Academic Council noted that in its 28th meeting held on 10.12.2021, the Indian Nursing Council {Revised Regulations and Curriculum for B.Sc. (Nursing) Program, Regulations, 2020} as notified in July 2021 in the Official Gazette was adopted. With partial modifications, the Indian Nursing Council has brought amendments to this Regulation and the same has been notified as Indian Nursing Council {Revised Regulations and Curriculum for B.Sc. (Nursing) Program - Corrigendum}, Regulations, 2022 on 08.04.2022 in the Official Gazette.

The Academic Council recommended to the Executive Council for approval for adoption of the Indian Nursing Council {Revised Regulations and Curriculum for B.Sc. (Nursing) Program - Corrigendum}, Regulations, 2022 (and its subsequent amendments from time to time) by Sikkim University.

D. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

AC 30.4.D1: Approval for One Departmental Council (DC) for PhD programme of Education

After deliberation, the Academic Council approved the recommendation of the School Board of Professional Studies for having one Departmental Council for Ph.D. programme of Education

where all the eligible research supervisors of the University Department and its affiliated colleges will be the members of Departmental Council.

AC 30.4.D2: Transfer of Ms. Kranti Dewan to another University

The Council advised that the School Board is competent to take decision on this matter and need not be brought in the Academic Council. Hence, this agenda item was withdrawn.

SECTION 5 MINUTES OF AUTHORITIES/COMMITTEES

AC 30.6.1 Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Human Sciences held on 23rd November 2022

The Council noted the Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Human Sciences held on 23rd November 2022.

AC 30.6.2 Minutes of the 18th meeting of the School Board of Human Sciences held on 25th July 2023

The Council noted the Minutes of the 18th meeting of the School Board of Human Sciences held on 25th July 2023.

AC 30.6.3 Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Languages & Literature held on 5th December 2022

The Council noted the Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Languages & Literature held on 5th December 2022.

AC 30.6.4 Minutes of the 18th meeting of the School Board of Languages & Literature held on 21st July 2023

The Council noted the Minutes of the 18th meeting of the School Board of Languages & Literature held on 21st July 2023.

The Dean, School of Languages & Literature apprised the House that the School Board in its 18th meeting resolved to enter into an MoU between Sikkim University and Tribhuwan University, Kathmandu, Nepal for academic collaboration and recommended for approval of the Academic Council. The Council approved the same in principle and advised the Dean of School to submit the draft MoU, through proper channel, for approval of the Academic Council.

AC 30.6.5 Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Physical Sciences held on 7th December 2022

The Council noted the Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Physical Sciences held on 7th December 2022.

AC 30.6.6 Minutes of the 18th meeting of the School Board of Physical Sciences held on 19th July 2023

The Council noted the Minutes of the 18th meeting of the School Board of Physical Sciences held on 19th July 2023.

AC 30.6.7 Minutes of the 16th meeting of the School Board of Professional Studies held on 28th November 2022

The Council noted the Minuets of the 16th meeting of the School Board of Professional Studies held on 28th November 2022

AC 30.6.8 Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Professional Studies held on 20th July 2023

The Council noted the Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Professional Studies held on 20th July 2023.

AC 30.6.9 Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Social Sciences held on 6th December 2022

The Council noted the Minutes of the 17th meeting of the School Board of Social Sciences held on 6th December 2022.

AC 30.6.10 Minutes of the 18th meeting of the School Board of Social Sciences held on 7th August 2023

The Council noted the Minutes of the 18th meeting of the School Board of Social Sciences held on 7th August 2023.

AC 30.6.11 Minutes of the 12th meeting of the School Board of Life Sciences held on 18th July 2023

The Council noted the Minutes of the 12th meeting of the School Board of Life Sciences held on 18th July 2023.

AC 30.6.12 Minutes of the 16th meeting of the College Development Council held on 8th August 2023

The Council noted the Minutes of the 16th meeting of the College Development Council held on 8th August 2023. The Council after deliberations recommended the following items for approval by the Executive Council:

- i) Permanent Affiliation to Sikkim Government College, Burtuk from the academic session 2023-24
- ii) Starting of PG programme in Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Chemistry at Government Pharmacy College, Sajong with an intake of 6 students each from the academic session 2023-24
- iii) Renewal of Temporary Affiliation of (14) Colleges/Institutions/ Subjects/Courses for the Academic Session 2023-24

SECTION - 6 ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

AC 30.6.1 Creation of separate School of Studies for Computer Science programmes

Prof. Swarup Roy, Deptt. of Computer Applications stated that the Computer Science programmes are presently operating under the School Board of Physical Sciences. However, the Computer Science programmes do not align with the Physical Science programmes and thus requested for creation of a separate School of Studies for Computer Science programmes.

The Academic Council noted the matter and resolved for creation of relevant School of Studies after following due procedure when new Departments and programmes are introduced in the future and it is unmanageable to the present School of Studies.

AC 30.6.2 Induction of Hindi in Modern Indian Languages

Dr. Hardeep Singh, Head, Deptt. of Hindi requested the House for induction of Hindi in the Modern Indian Languages.

The Council noted the same and advised Dr. Hardeep Singh to bring a detailed proposal in the Academic Council through BoS and School Board after thorough deliberation.

AC 30.6.3 Specified holidays during Dusshera & Diwali festivals

Prof. Durga Prasad Chhetri, Deptt. of Political Science requested the House that the holidays for Dusshera & Diwali festivals may be increased by 2-3 days and to be mentioned in the Academic Calendar.

The Academic Council noted the same and decided to be discussed later.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-(K.V.S. Kameswara Rao) Registrar & Secretary Academic Council Sd/-(Prof. Avinash Khare) Vice-Chancellor & Chairman Academic Council